

**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, July 3, 1790, from
Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence,
Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt,
Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Richmond July 3. 1790.

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 20th of June I have recd. & am happy to hear of yr. restoration to health. Mrs. Monroe & family are in Albemarle whither I sit out in a day or two. They are well.

The assumption of the state debts is disliked here, & will create great disgust if adopted under any shape whatever. The minds of all are made up on it & I doubt whether even the immediate removal to the Potowmk. woud. reconcile them to it. I merely mention this as a fact wh. I consider as well establish'd, without entering at present into its merits, further than to observe, that I am of opinion it is in every point of view impolitick; that its advocates have put the publick name & interests in jeopardy, & that it will be hard if they will still press forward & sacrifice these important considerations, if we do not yield upon terms which are improper. It is however much to be wish'd a revenue bill could pass satisfactory to all parties. For this is certainly essen

tial to the publick welfare. We still hope for the establishmt. of the seat of govt. on the Potowk. if a permanent one is fix'd on. Tho' I must confess I consider a vote to that purpose at present to take effect hereafter as of but little importance.

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I observe a bill has pass'd for settling the claims of Individual States with the US. & that under it 2 Comrs. are to be appointed. Virga. wod. surely have a member at that board. If so Mr. Dawson of the Council would be happy in obtaining it. I have known him for sometime past and really think him well qualified for it. He is a young man of sound judgment, parts & attention to business, & am persuaded in the discharge of that trust, would merit the approbation of the government. An impression perhaps took place some years since, on his first commencement, that he was somewhat dissipated. If this was even at that time well founded, yet be assur'd it has been since done away. He has been lately appointed to Congress & the Council & in my opinion possess'd of the publick confidence. As I think him

fit for the station & really wish him well, & on that account as well as from a desire to avail the publick of his services, am anxious for his promotion. For this purpose I have taken the liberty to mention him to you, that so far as you concur with me in an opinion of his merit, he may be avail'd of your aid. I shall write you from Albemarle upon a presumption you have your cypher on a subject somewhat interesting to myself. With the best wishes for your welfare I am yr. affectionate friend & servant, Jas. Monroe

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